

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1           1.       An information handling system comprising:  
2           plural components operable to process information;  
3           an optical drive interfaced with the plural components and operable to  
4                 communicate information between the plural components and an  
5                 optical medium, the optical drive having plural lasers, each laser  
6                 associated with a type of optical medium; and  
7           an optical medium identification module associated with the optical drive and  
8                 operable to illuminate an optical medium with a first of the plural  
9                 lasers to detect identification information embedded on the optical  
10                medium that identifies the optical medium as associated with a second  
11                of the plural lasers.

1           2.       The information handling system of Claim 1 wherein the first laser  
2           comprises a red laser and the second laser comprises a blue laser.

1           3.       The information handling system of Claim 2 wherein the optical  
2           medium identification module is further operable to initiate use of the blue laser for  
3           the optical medium if the red laser detects the identification information associated  
4           with the blue laser.

1           4.       The information handling system of Claim 2 wherein the optical  
2           medium identification module is further operable to perform a DVD detection  
3           algorithm if the red laser fails to detect the identification information associated with  
4           the blue laser.

1           5.       The information handling system of Claim 4 wherein the plural lasers  
2           further comprise an IR laser and the optical medium identification module is further  
3           operable to perform a CD detection algorithm with the IR laser if the DVD detection  
4           algorithm fails to identify the optical medium as a DVD.

1           6.     The information handling system of Claim 1 wherein the first laser  
2     comprises an IR laser and the second laser comprises a blue laser.

1           7.     The information handling system of Claim 6 wherein the optical  
2     medium identification module is further operable to initiate use of the blue laser for  
3     the optical medium if the IR laser detects the identification information associated  
4     with the blue laser.

1           8.     The information handling system of Claim 7 wherein the optical  
2     medium identification module is further operable to perform a CD detection algorithm  
3     if the IR laser fails to detect the identification information associated with the blue  
4     laser.

1           9.     The information handling system of Claim 8 wherein the plural lasers  
2     further comprise a red laser and the optical medium identification module is further  
3     operable to perform a DVD detection algorithm with the red laser if the CD detection  
4     algorithm fails to identify the optical medium as a CD.

1           10.    A method for identifying an optical medium inserted into an optical  
2     drive having plural lasers, the method comprising:  
3                selecting a first of the plural lasers to illuminate the optical medium;  
4                attempting with the first laser to read identification information from the  
5                optical medium that is associated with a second of the plural lasers;  
6                initiating use of the second laser according to the identification information if  
7                the attempt to read the identification information with the first laser  
8                succeeds; and  
9                performing a detection algorithm with the first laser if the attempt to read the  
10              identification information fails, the first laser detection algorithm  
11              attempting to identify the optical medium as associated with the first  
12              laser.

1           11.     The method of Claim 10 further comprising:  
2           initiating use of the first laser if the first laser detection algorithm succeeds;  
3           performing a detection algorithm with a third laser if the first laser detection  
4           algorithm fails, the third laser detection algorithm attempting to  
5           identify the optical medium as associated with the third laser.

1           12.     The method of Claim 11 wherein the first laser comprises a red laser,  
2           the second laser comprises a blue laser and the third laser comprises an IR laser.

1           13.     The method of Claim 11 wherein the first laser comprises an IR laser,  
2           the second laser comprises a blue laser and the third laser comprises a red laser.

1           14.     The method of Claim 11 wherein the optical medium associated with  
2           the first laser comprises a DVD and the optical medium associated with the third laser  
3           comprises a CD.

1           15.     The method of Claim 11 wherein the optical medium associated with  
2           the first laser comprises a CD and the optical medium associated with the third laser  
3           comprises a DVD.

1           16.     An optical medium comprising:  
2           a data layer operable to store data readable by a first laser;  
3           a protective surface disposed over the optical medium;  
4           embedded identification information disposed for reading by a second laser,  
5           the identification information identifying the optical medium as  
6           associated with the first laser.

1           17.     The optical medium of Claim 16 wherein the identification information  
2           is embedded on the protective surface.

1           18.     The optical medium of Claim 16 wherein the first laser comprises a  
2           blue laser and the second laser comprises an IR laser.

1           19.    The optical medium of Claim 16 wherein the first laser comprises a  
2   blue laser and the second laser comprises a red laser.

1           20.    The optical medium of Claim 19 wherein the identification information  
2   is embedded in the data layer as a frequency modulated band having a width of  
3   approximately .5 mm and having bit cells of a length of approximately .3 mm long.

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